

CLAIM AMENDMENTS

1. (cancelled)
2. (cancelled)
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14. (cancelled
15. (currently amended) An aqueous formulation for providing resistance to staining by acid colorants in a fibrous polyamide substrate comprising in an aqueous vehicle:
 - a) a semi-bleached to bleached sulfonated aromatic condensation resin, said resin being selected from the group consisting of condensation products of
 - i) phenolsulfonic acid, dihydroxydiphenyl sulfone and an aldehyde;
 - ii) sulfonated dihydroxydiphenylsulfone, dihydroxy-diphenyl sulfone and an aldehyde;
 - iii) sulfonated dihydroxy diphenyl sulfone and an aldehyde; and
 - iv) mixtures of i), ii) and ~~ii)~~ iii); and
 - b) a semi-soluble methacrylic acid polymer of high-weight average molecular weight and high-number average molecular weight having a weight average molecular weight of 100,000 to 500,000 and a number

average molecular weight of 50,000 to 100,000, said methacrylic acid polymer being semi-soluble such that it is rendered resistant to wet cleaning processes thereby producing durable stain resistance, while providing initial stain resistance prior to wet cleaning of the substrate.

16. (original) A formulation according to claim 15, wherein said resin is a condensation product of 4,4-dihydroxydiphenylsulfone, sulfonated 4,4-dihydroxydiphenylsulfone and an aldehyde.

17. (original) A formulation according to claim 15, wherein said resin is a condensation product of phenol sulfonic acid, 4,4-dihydroxy diphenyl sulfone and an aldehyde.

18. (original) A formulation according to claim 15, wherein said resin is a condensation product of sulfonated 3,3-dihydroxydiphenylsulfone and an aldehyde.

19. (original) A formulation according to claim 15, wherein said weight average molecular weight is 100,000 to 500,000 and said number average molecular weight is 50,000 to 100,000.

20. (original) A formulation according to claim 19, wherein said aqueous vehicle further contains a semi-soluble or insoluble ethylmethacrylate polymer.

21. (original) A formulation according to claim 19, wherein said aqueous vehicle further contains an anionic or non-ionic fluorochemical.

22. (original) A formulation according to claim 20, wherein said ethylmethacrylate polymer has a weight average molecular weight of 100,000 to 500,000; and a number average molecular weight of 25,000 to 100,000.

23. (original) A formulation according to claim 15, additionally containing a bleached aldehyde condensate of a naphthalene sulfonic acid.

24. (withdrawn) A method of imparting stain resistance to acid colorants, to a fibrous polyamide or wool substrate comprising:

contacting said fibrous polyamide substrate with a semi-bleached to bleached sulfonated aromatic condensation resin in an aqueous vehicle, said resin being selected from the group consisting of condensation products of:

- i) phenolsulfonic acid, dihydroxydiphenyl sulfone and an aldehyde;
- ii) sulfonated dihydroxydiphenylsulfone, dihydroxydiphenyl sulfone and an aldehyde;
- iii) sulfonated dihydroxy diphenyl sulfone and an aldehyde; and
- iv) mixtures of i), ii) and iii).

25. (withdrawn) A method according to claim 24, wherein said substrate is a polyamide substrate and said aqueous vehicle further contains a semi-soluble methacrylic acid polymer having a weight average molecular weight of 100,000 to 500,000 and a number average molecular weight of 50,000 to 100,000.

26. (withdrawn) A method according to claim 25, wherein said vehicle further contains a semi-soluble or insoluble ethylmethacrylate polymer having a weight average molecular weight of 100,000 to 500,000 and a number average molecular weight of 25,000 to 100,000.

27. (withdrawn) A method according to claim 26, wherein said vehicle further contains an anionic or non-ionic fluorochemical.

28. (withdrawn) A method according to claim 24, wherein said resin is a condensation product of 4,4-dihydro diphenyl sulfone, sulfonated 4,4-dihydroxy diphenyl sulfone and an aldehyde.

29. (withdrawn) A method according to claim 24, wherein said resin is a condensation product of phenol sulfonic acid, 4,4-dihydroxy diphenyl sulfone and an aldehyde.

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30. (withdrawn) A method according to claim 24, wherein said resin is a condensation product of sulfonated 4,4-dihydroxydiphenylsulfone and an aldehyde.

31. (withdrawn) A method according to claim 24, wherein said substrate is a wool substrate.

32. (cancelled)

33. (original) An aqueous formulation according to claim 20 wherein said ethyl methacrylate polymer has a weight average molecular weight of 100,000 to 500,000 and a number average molecular weight of 25,000 to 100,000, said ethyl methacrylate polymer being semi-soluble or insoluble such that it is rendered resistant to wet cleaning processes thereby.